

NAME OF THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Department of Agricultural Education, Communications, and 4-H Youth Development

DEGREE PROGRAMS THAT ARE ASSESSED UNDER THIS PLAN

B.S. in Agricultural Education (Leadership and Service Option)

EXPECTED STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Students will possess a broad range of knowledge in and about agriculture.
2. Students will demonstrate self-awareness in relation to their core values, personal vision and leadership vision.
3. Students will synthesize knowledge of current leadership theories and practices through experiential learning.
4. Students will demonstrate service and professionalism through experiential learning.
5. Students will explore and evaluate a specific area of agriculture through experiential learning.

METHODS USED TO EVALUATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

1. **Portfolios** – In preparation for the development of portfolios, Leadership and Service students begin examining their core values, personal vision, and leadership vision in AGED 2303: Personal Leadership Skills in Agriculture. The first portfolio submission is prepared and submitted in AGED 3101: Laboratory and Clinical Experiences in Agricultural Education and the second portfolio submission is prepared and submitted in AGED 4203: Professional Development in Agriculture.
2. **Internship Experience** – Leadership and Service students participate in a 12-week internship experience after completing AGED 4203: Professional Development in Agriculture. In cooperation with CASNR's career services, students obtain an internship with an agricultural-related organization through an application process that may include a series of interviews and/or site visits. Upon accepting an internship, students prepare a contract in association with the internship supervisor and faculty coordinator defining learning objectives appropriate for the student's internship. During the internship students are required to work full-time. Students, also, prepare biweekly reports, take leadership in a special project for the organization in which they are working, and prepare a portfolio of their experience.
3. **Supervisor's Evaluation and Faculty Coordinator's Visitation Report** - Student interns are evaluated by their supervisor upon completing the internship. Supervisors are encouraged to utilize evaluation tools typical for employees of their organization as well

as a standard document prepared for the internship experience. The internship evaluation assesses the following areas: ability to perform without supervision, willingness to accept instruction, relationships with other employees, dependability and reliability, thoroughness in completing tasks assigned, personal appearance, enthusiasm and courtesy. In addition to the supervisor's final evaluation, the faculty coordinator travels to the internship site to visit each of the students. Faculty coordinators observe the students, discuss progress related to established learning objectives, talk with co-workers and supervisors, and tour the facilities.

4. **Internship Seminars, Student Evaluations, & Exit Interviews** – During the final week of the internship, students return to campus to present a professional seminar based on their experience. Students are required to give a summative overview, as well as, evaluate the overall experience. Students are specifically required to reflect on the organization's leadership and the opportunities to meet learning objectives. Exit interviews are conducted and students complete the "LAS Internship Survey" which provides information about the quality of the internship, interest of their supervisor in the program and the intern, ability of the supervisor to teach, quality of instruction provided, and what they would like to change about the undergraduate program as Leadership and Service majors.

IMPROVING ACADEMIC AND STUDENT PROGRAMS BASED ON ASSESSMENT OUTCOMES

1. **Portfolios** –Students are required to resubmit portfolios making improvements as suggested by faculty; individual advising sessions are held with students as needed. Additionally, new classroom instruction is implemented to support areas of the portfolios found to consistently need improvement.
2. **Internship Experience** –Documentation from previous internship experiences is shared with future interns as they begin examining appropriate internship opportunities.
3. **Supervisor's Evaluation and Faculty Coordinator's Visitation Report** – Supervisor feedback is used to make changes throughout the curriculum. Classroom instruction in leadership or professional development classes is implemented to improve assessment areas with weak evaluations. Faculty coordinator reports are used to assess appropriate internship experiences, ensuring that students are given the opportunity to meet learning objectives.
4. **Internship Seminars, Student Evaluations, & Exit Interviews** – This final assessment opportunity is used to evaluate the overall curriculum. Information is used to evaluate required coursework, seeking out areas in need of expansion or deletion. The information is also used towards the development of new courses.